

The Brethren Evangelist.

PUBLISHED AT
THE BRETHREN PUBLISHING HOUSE.

"Let Us go on Unto Perfection."

TERMS, \$1.50
PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE.

VOLUME VIII.

ASHLAND, OHIO., DECEMBER 15, 1886.

NUMBER 50

The Golden Locks.

That life is best whose gates are held
Close shut by golden locks of prayer;
No impious foot, no hand impure,
No evil ever enters there.
Its furnishings are fair to see,
Its gleaming walls are gemmed with light
Its holy beauty ne'er grows dim
With gloom or shadowing of night.
To all things lovely, pure and true,
Its portals ever open swing;
About it ev'ry where the flow'rs
Of gracious deeds are blossoming.
And out upon the great highway,
The weary spirits, passing by,
Pause in the rush of wild unrest,
To breathe the one bitter, longing sigh.
"O, House of Peace! what angels dwell
Behind thine inner temple door!
Would He might come and make my life
As fair as this forevermore!"
Then guard thy House of Life as well;
Where evil comes no angel stays;
The gifts of purity and peace
Belong alone to him who prays.
And shouldst thou pass, O, restless soul,
Behind those golden locks of prayer,
Then wouldst thou find a cherished guest,
Unfading faith abiding there.
MRS. A. L. DAVISON

Field Echoes.

My sojourn in Iowa has been pleasant in my ministerial experience. I have enlarged my acquaintance with the Brethren and their friends. Bro. John Nicholson, a veteran of the cross, who has faithfully preached the word for upwards of forty years, was the only person in this part of Iowa that I had ever met with to from an acquaintance e'er our "pulpit exchange." I visited in his home near Hudson and we had a pleasant time together. The brethren have purchased for him 30 or 40 acres of land to be deeded to him at the end of a period of labor for them which will be some time next spring, when old brother John can read his title clear to a home on earth as well as "a mansion beyond the skies." This together with the success he has had in the field, gathering in souls from the byways and hedges of evil, inspires him with the zeal of a youth and really would seem to be living life over again. May choicest blessings flow unceasingly from God and his people upon our dear Bro. is my prayer.

I visited and held a few meetings in Garrison, the home of our good brother and sister Urice. Owing to circumstances over which I had no control we deemed it best not to attempt a revival seige at this time. On Sunday I attended an "Old Order meeting" held in the Presbyterian church. A Bro. Garner, from Grundy Co., preached. I had often heard it said that "there was a possibility of the 'Old Order' and the 'Brethren' uniting at sometime in the future. I never gave the matter thought until I heard the bell ring this Sunday p. m., inviting us to attend their service. (For the bell did ring twice.) It rang just like it does when we (Progressive) Brethren hold meetings and then they read and preached from the same Bible too. Why can't we unite? We are brethren! Of course Bro. Garner did not go upon the rostrum but there was plenty of room off of it, and with our charitable motto—In essentials unity, in nonessentials liberty in all things—we could grant this even in a crowded house and other preferences of a kindred nature.

Bro. Urice is a leading merchant of the "Burgh" and P. M.,

also his son George, a promising young man, is a grain merchant. Bro. J. M. and sister Mollie Rid-enour, cousins of Bro. James R., of Ohio, reside at this place. Bro. R. is a teacher of considerable experience. His father, with whom I visited, is an Elder in the G. B. church, a very kind-hearted Christian brother. He opened our service one evening with prayer; how grand it would be could we find many more such among our G. B. brethren! What unpleasantness issues from prejudice! May God help the Brethren church to divert herself of it!

I also held a few meetings near Lester P. O., a few miles east of Waterloo; There are a few members living here among whom is sister Speicher and daughter Corna. Dr. Speicher, the husband and father, belong to the G. B's., but is quite liberal in his views. I had my home with them the few days I spent in their neighborhood. He is a wellinformed man upon all subjects of a practical nature. His son Jacob farms the place while the Dr. follows his profession. Bro. Jacob spent 1885 among our brethren in California. I had several talks about the Coast that were of interest. I shall remember with gratitude the kindness shown me in the home of these people as well as in the homes of all others of our people in this State. Had a pleasant union Thanksgiving service in Hudson. The ministers of the Brethren, U. B., Baptist and Congregational churches were present and participated. The young folks of Hudson furnished such music that the most indifferent soul to the national, local and personal blessings could not refrain from bursting forth in praise to Jehovah, for his goodness to the children of men. Bro. Hilderbrand is chorister and one that will put in motion an influence for good wherever his instructions are sought. I feel almost like capturing him for a companion in travel. More anon.

R. F. MALLOTT.

Waterloo, Iowa, Dec. 1st.

Chronicles.

The meeting at Primrose, Ohio, of which I spoke in my last chronicles, was not very largely attended for the several following reasons, to wit:

1st. The weather was bad and the roads muddy when we began. 2nd. Christianity is below par outside of a few representatives of the several churches, who "like good Elijah stand, while many have revolted," and it seems to be hard for them to decide what to do. 3rd. We had the worst fires I most ever saw, sometimes so hot that one could hardly breath, then again so cold and smoky that the people could hardly endure it. But fourthly and mainly, the United Brethren were holding a wild noisy meeting in Alvorelton, just a mile from Primrose, this meeting began before ours did and the excitement of course carried most of the young folks over there. We however had good

attention and the prospects are favorable for a good work to be done there in the near future. By request of the people there, we promised to resume our work by and by.

While I was at Primrose, I received a letter from brother Miller, of Sidney, Ind., stating that the church in Sidney was now unoccupied for the first time since brother Bashor began there in the fall, and that they wanted some meetings. Accordingly I and brother Carmer (who attended some of the meetings at Primrose) boarded the train at Alvorelton, Monday the 6th inst., brother Carmer for his home at Auburn, Ind., and I for Sidney. When I stepped off at South Whitley, brother Miller, who had come up from Sidney to halt me for fear I would pass by, soon had me by the hand, and we had to wait only a short time for the train on the Nickle Plate, and soon we were at Sidney. Had services that evening and three evenings since. We have a growing interest, three have come out on the Lord's side, and others are near. Baptizing tomorrow. We will be compelled to close here too soon again.

I lodged with brother Miller Monday night, and the next day we went to Warsaw. Brother Dan. was elected to the legislature this fall by the Republican party, and he went to get a new suit of clothes, but it would seem that he could not find anything good enough ready made, he had himself measured (by a Jew at that) from head to foot, and ordered a suit made. Then too, he got a fir cap that looks very much like a king's crown, I don't know what that means, but possibly if Daniel don't look a little out how he puts on extras he might find it harder to get away from Indianapolis than it was to get there.

If any of the brethren should be about Indianapolis any time in the months of January, February or March they can find brother Daniel Miller at the State House, and he will be very glad to have them to call on him.

For the next three weeks after we close here I will do pastoral work. I am not fully released from pastoral work yet, have monthly appointments at Salem and Bunker Hill and at Oakville every third month.

Since my time for pastoral work in the Edna Mills congregation has expired. Many have become confused about my address, please therefore, brother editor, say to the folks through the EVANGELIST, that my address is Rossville, Clinton Co., Ind.

J. H. SWIHART.

Dec. 10, 1886.

Nokesville, Va. Items.

Commenced meetings at a new church known by the name of Hazelwood, about two weeks ago and have been earnestly defending our only creed, the New Testament, and its commentator, the Old Testament, every night, three excepted, since. This is a new field for the Brethren. The Bible alone doctrine, stripped from the

traditions of men, is something new to this people. This people are in need of the pure unadulterated word of God. We feel confident that we could have done a good work here if the weather had been favorable. We have had rain, mud, storm and snow to contend with ever since we commenced preaching. One made the good confession the last night we preached. The waters are troubled; some are almost persuaded. I wanted to preach last night, and tonight, my farewell sermon, but it commenced snowing yesterday evening and today at noon it is still snowing. We loath to leave when we see and know that some are so near the kingdom, but owing to the inclemency of the weather we are obliged to postpone the meetings until spring, and we hope by that time the harvest will be fully ripe and we believe with the sickle of God's truth we believe we will be instrumental in gathering the golden sheaves and storing them in the garner of God. Oh! when I came over here and saw how some of the plain and important commandments were trampled under foot, I can realize more fully than ever that people are greatly in need of sound doctrinal gospel sermons. We ought not to be afraid to preach the doctrine of Christ. I know it puts the wolves to howling and devils to advertising, but it will cause the good and great—the thinking class—to accept the pure gospel. We need more grit and grace; we need men that will die, if it is necessary, in defence of the gospel, but never surrender. A few such preachers, by hard work and plenty of it, could build up here.

I am writing these notes at brother John M. Bowman's; he and his good wife are two fruitful servants in the kingdom. They have aided so much in our labors. May God bless them for their kindness. They are anxious to see the Brethren church built up here. They are doing everything they can and we believe in God's own time their prayers will be answered. May the spirit of God continue to work at the place and those that are almost persuaded. I pray that they may be altogether persuaded to enter in through the gates into the city. May the blessing of God rest upon the people at Hazelwood is my prayer.

ISAAC D. BOWMAN.

Dec. 5, 1886.

Montevideo, Va.

As I read the columns of the EVANGELIST, I find many articles stating the progress that is being made throughout the brotherhood by the Brethren; but have not read any from our place for some time. And I feel that the cause of this is not that we are growing lukewarm but that one waited on the other. It is true we have had no evangelist with us for some time and therefore we have had no accessions to the church lately, not since Bro. McFaden was here in this part of the Valley, but we have regu-

lar preaching at four different points. If we cannot report a great increase in our section I am glad to hear of sinners coming to Christ elsewhere. We are looking for Bro. Shafer up soon to give us a meeting. He has been so busy in his own section that he could not get up sooner.

At the four points we run three Sunday schools: The past summer the Sunday school at our place is still in progress and we expect to continue it up to Christmas. We have a splendid school the enrollment is about sixty. Our school at Mountain Grove church is a union school. We also have a prayer meeting underway now, we meet once a week when the weather will permit. We are taking advantage of every opportunity that presents itself in our feeble way to advance the cause of Christ. Life is made up of little things and I think those who waits to do a great deal of good at once will never do any. So by the means of prayer meetings, Sunday schools, and our walk and conversation we can do a little good at a time. There is no one without some influence, it is to man what flavor is to fruit, or fragrance to the flower. As the flower cannot tell what becomes of the odor which is wafted away from it by every wind, so no man knows the limit of that influence which constantly and imperceptibly escapes from his daily life. So we should not grow weary in well doing; but continue to do every good deed that is in our power. A spark of fire helps to light the world. And we may have a spark within us that may help to light the cause of Christ. And we should try to develop that spark by doing every good deed that we can.

J. F. KOONTZ.

Montevideo, Va.

One More Battle at Bunker Hill.

On the 22nd, Bro. J. W. Fitzgerald came to our neighborhood to commence a short series of meetings, but the first night we were stormed out entirely, but the next evening he commenced work in the Master's vineyard and held meeting each evening till Saturday when he went to Roann to fill his appointment: he returned on Monday and continued till over Sunday when he had to close on account of previous arrangements. The result was one candidate for baptism and many more almost ready, and the church built up. The people of the neighborhood were aroused to a sense of their duty, and the best order prevailed. The house was crowded every night that the weather was favorable. Brother Fitzgerald is a man that does not preach to suit the congregation only but the Lord as well. Brethren that is the preaching we want and is all that will stand. Pray for us at Bunker Hill that we may go on into perfection, at the end of this life may we all reap a crown.

J. M. FOX.

Peru, Ind., Dec. 7th, 1886.